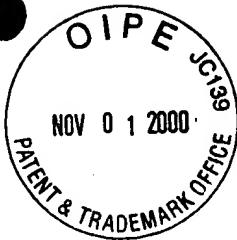


862.C1916



2721 #5

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
TORU WAKANA) : Examiner: Not Yet Known
Application No.: 09/579,502) : Group Art Unit: 2721
Filed: May 30, 2000) :
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS)
AND IMAGE PROCESSING :
METHOD) October 31, 2000

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document identified on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the document is also enclosed.

For the concise statement of relevance of the listed document, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English Abstract attached thereto, and also to page 12, lines 17-20 of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul P. Diana
Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 79 286

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